

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 222138
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 H-02 PA-02
SSM-05 SIG-03 PCH-02 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
SP-02 SS-15 SSO-00 INRE-00 SAA-01 SES-02 OMB-01
ACDA-12 TRSE-00 /112 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:REUNDELAND:LLC

APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN

PA/PRS - MR. CARTER

H - MR. FLATEN

SSM - MR. MC ANDREW

NEA/IAI - MR. KORN

NEA/ARN - MR. HOWELL

NEA/EGY - MR. MARTHINSEN

NEA/ARP - MR. TWINAM

-----057311 010218Z /14

O 312320Z AUG 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION SINAI

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 222138

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
SECDEF WASHDC 0000
JCS WASHDC 0000
CIA WASHDC 0000
USICA
NSC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS POUCH

UNCLAS STATE 222138

CINCEUR FOR POLAD, TEL AVIV FOR PAO, DELIVER BY 9 A.M.

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - AUGUST 31

1. FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE
EXCERPTS FROM DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING FOR AUGUST 31,
1978. SPOKESMAN TODAY WAS KENNETH BROWN.

Q. THERE ARE REPORTS TO THE EFFECT THAT WE HAVE A DEAL
BETWEEN ISRAEL, THE UNIFEL FORCES AND THE MILITIA IN THE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 222138

SOUTH. HAVE YOU GOT ANYTHING ON IT? AND MY SECOND
QUESTION REGARDING AMBASSADOR PARKER: DO YOU DENY OR
CONFIRM REPORTS THAT YOU'RE CHANGING AMBASSADOR PARKER IN
BEIRUT?

A. LET ME ADDRESS YOUR LATTER QUESTION FIRST. WE HAVE
COMPLETE CONFIDENCE IN AMBASSADOR PARKER AND HIS STAFF.
HE'S DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB IN A DIFFICULT SITUATION.

AS TO YOUR SPECIFIC QUESTION ABOUT DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS
OR TRANSFERS, I HAVE NO COMMENT.

REGARDING THE QUESTION OF THE REPORT THAT UNIFEL FORCES
WOULD BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE SIX-MILE STRIP ALONG THE
ISRAELI-LEBANESE BORDER, THERE WAS A UNITED NATIONS
ANNOUNCEMENT MADE TO THIS EFFECT IN JERUSALEM. WE WELCOME
THIS MOVE, WHICH IS IN KEEPING WITH THE UNITED NATION'S
MANDATE UNDER SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 425, AND WE
APPLAUD THE STATESMANSHIP OF ALL CONCERNED IN WORKING OUT
THIS ARRANGEMENT.

WE NOTE THAT THE UNITED NATIONS SPOKESMAN SAID THAT

"THROUGH THE GOOD OFFICES OF THE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES, DE FACTO FORCES IN SOUTHERN LEBANON HAVE AGREED WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF UNIFEL LIAISON OFFICES IN MARJAYOUN AND BINT JAIL, AS WELL AS TWO ADDITIONAL POSTS IN THE SHIA AREA."

HE ALSO SAID THAT UNIFEL WILL MAN SIX OBSERVATION POSTS AND HAS BEEN ASSURED OF FULL FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT IN THE AREA.

THE ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE, AS STATED IN RESOLUTION 425, IS THE RESTORATION OF THE AUTHORITY OF THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT TO ALL OF LEBANON, INCLUDING THE SOUTH. WE SEE THE EXTENSION OF THE UN IN THIS AREA AS A SIGNIFICANT STEP
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 222138

IN THIS DIRECTION.

Q. ARE THERE ANY PLANS TO ALLOW THE LEBANESE ARMY NOW TO MAN THE AREA WITH THE UNIFEL FORCES?

A. I DON'T KNOW OF ANY DEVELOPMENTS IN THAT AREA. YOU KNOW, OF COURSE, THAT WE DO FAVOR THE ENTRY OF THE LEBANESE FORCES INTO THE SOUTH.

Q. HAS THE UNITED STATES BEEN IN CONTACT WITH A NUMBER OF GOVERNMENTS ON THE POSSIBILITY OF SETTING UP AN INTERNATIONAL POLICE FORCE FOR THE MIDDLE EAST?

A. NO.

Q. IT HAS NOT BEEN IN TOUCH WITH, FOR EXAMPLE, AUSTRALIA OR CANADA?

A. THAT IS CORRECT.

Q. EXCUSE ME. YOU DIDN'T ANSWER THE QUESTION ON PARKER BECAUSE THE REPORTS ARE THAT HE IS BEING MOVED TO MOROCCO AND THE AMBASSADOR IN DENMARK IS GOING TO BEIRUT.

A. I'VE SEEN THOSE REPORTS.

Q. CAN YOU ADDRESS THAT?

A. I HAVE SEEN THOSE REPORTS. I DID NOT ADDRESS THEM.

Q. WHY?

A. WELL, I REITERATED OUR CONFIDENCE IN THE AMBASSADOR
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 222138

AND WE NORMALLY DON'T TALK ABOUT REPORTS OR SPECULATIONS OF TRANSFERS OF OUR SENIOR DIPLOMATS.

Q. YES, BUT A TRANSFER DOESN'T NECESSARILY MEAN THAT YOU DON'T HAVE CONFIDENCE IN A MAN; IS THAT RIGHT?

A. THAT'S RIGHT, BUT IF THE TRANSFER WERE IN THE WORKS, IT WOULD BE ANNOUNCED AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME, AND I HAVE NO SUCH ANNOUNCEMENT.

Q. YESTERDAY YOU DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING ON THE MEETING BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER BEGIN AND THE U.S. CHARGE D'AFFAIRES IN ISRAEL. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING ON THAT TODAY?

A. THERE WAS A REPORT THIS MORNING THAT PRIME MINISTER BEGIN HAD PASSED ON TO OUR CHARGE IN TEL AVIV A WARNING ABOUT THE SITUATION IN LEBANON. THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN EXERTING EVERY CONCEIVABLE EFFORT TO DEFUSE THE TROUBLING SITUATION IN LEBANON, AND AS A PART OF THIS PROCESS HAS CONSULTED CLOSELY AND FREQUENTLY WITH ALL QUARTERS HAVING A ROLE TO PLAY OR WITH INFLUENCE ON THE SITUATION.

YESTERDAY'S MEETING IN ISRAEL BETWEEN THE PRIME MINISTER AND OUR CHARGE WAS PART OF THAT PROCESS.

Q. DO THOSE QUARTERS THAT YOU'VE BEEN CONSULTING INCLUDE THE PLO?

A. NO.

Q. INCLUDING SYRIA?

A. YES.

Q. I JUST WANTED TO BE CLEAR ON THIS. THERE HAS BEEN NO UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 222138

AMERICAN EFFORT, SO FAR AS YOU KNOW, TO CONTACT OTHER GOVERNMENTS WITH A VIEW TOWARDS ESTABLISHING AN INTER-

NATIONAL POLICE FORCE THAT COULD COME INTO BEING AFTER THE ACHIEVEMENT OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL?

A. THAT IS CORRECT.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING ON THE PLANNING FOR THE CAMP
DAVID SUMMIT?

A. NO.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY RESPONSE TO SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER
GROMYKO'S STATEMENT YESTERDAY ON THE POSSIBLE INTRODUCTION
OF U.S. TROOPS INTO THE MIDDLE EAST?

A. I DO NOT.

Q. CAN YOU GO DOWN BRIEFLY THE COVERAGE ARRANGEMENTS
FOR THE CAMP DAVID SUMMIT?

A. NO. THIS IS STILL IN PLANNING. I DON'T HAVE THAT
INFORMATION NOW.

Q. IS IT STILL OUR PLANNING TO HAVE A PRESS CENTER AT
THE AMERICAN LEGION HALL AT THURMONT?

A. THAT IS MY UNDERSTANDING.

Q. AND THERE WAS A REPORT THIS MORNING THAT THE ISRAELIS
ARE URGING THAT MORE INFORMATION BE MADE PUBLIC THAN THE
UNITED STATES HAD PLANNED TO MAKE PUBLIC AS THE TALKS
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 07 STATE 222138

WENT ON. DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THAT?

A. NO. WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF COORDINATING WITH THE
PARTIES WHAT THE ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE.

Q. DO YOU KNOW IF THE ARRIVAL CEREMONIES AT ANDREWS
WILL BE OPEN FOR COVERAGE AS IS USUAL?

A. I DON'T HAVE INFORMATION ON COVERAGE.
VANCE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE222138
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: REUNDELAND:LLC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780356-1041
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978082/aaaaabiu.tel
Line Count: 266
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 502ff25a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1609190
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - AUGUST 31
TAGS: SOPN, XF
To: AMMAN BEIRUT MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/502ff25a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014